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WITH
COLORED PICTURES

CALIFORNIA SCENERY
PORTLAND ROSE GARDENS
THE REDWOODS

CHRYSANTHEMUM
SHOW
NOVEMBER 8-9

R. R. McLEAN

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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Dean of Gardeners . . .

By SILAS B. OSBORN

Robert R. McLean, the Association's vice-president and former editor passed away at an early hour Sunday, September 26th following a prolonged illness. The editor has requested that I write an obituary for him. Truly even the editor cannot realize the difficult task he assigns me, for over a period of eighteen and one-half years of close business association with him, Robert R. McLean became my mentor and next to my immediate family my closest friend. I used the term friend deliberately not in the loose meaning that we so often connote acquaintances or casual agreeable associations but in its deeper, more significant sense. For to him it was my custom to turn in times of stress for guidance and help and as I now review in retrospect our relationship I think he never failed me. In his professional capacity as my chief and as my friend he was my inspiration and to his help and encouragement I attribute the opportunity for such modest success as I may achieve in my profession. My case is not singular for of all his hundreds of friends and their name was legion none appreciated him more than those who worked for him and with him.

And if the term "I" appears here too often for good usage in the matter of taste, it merely emphasizes a dominating character of the man in his submergence of his own personality; the giving of himself so that others might grow, together with the continuing followup that sees a job through. Bob McLean was an institution in friendship as well as in horticulture.

Robert R. McLean was born in Oakland, California, March 7, 1875, the son of Rev. Thomas G. McLean of that city. At the age of ten he moved with his family to Chicago and returned to Carpenteria, California (Santa Barbara County) ten years later. Returning to Chicago again, soon he engaged in business until coming to San Diego in 1912. He became associated with the San Diego County Horticultural Commission shortly after coming to San Diego and after an interval of ten years during which time he was employed by the First National Bank of San Diego in their farm service department. He became County Horticultural Commissioner, later designated as County Agricultural Commissioner, and served in that capacity until his death. His wife, Mrs. Ida E. McLean, well known to association members and two brothers and two sisters survive him.

Robert R. McLean was a born naturalist. His perennial enthusiasm for plants both native and exotic and all the natural phenomena associated with them was so infectious that he deeply influenced almost everyone with whom he associated. Therefore his achievements and spirit survive him and in the years to come will contribute towards making this world a better world for the welfare of mankind. The horticulture of this locality will go on more soundly for the thorough and deeply set foundation he has been so helpful in forming.

Robert R. McLean was a state and county officer and as such exercised wide discretionary police powers yet few who had professional relations with him were ever acutely aware of that fact, so judiciously and modestly was that authority concealed in a glove of velvet. I think above all, that typified the man better than any one thing that could be said. His warmth of feeling for his fellow men was such that he could not consciously injure anothers pride, feelings or welfare without himself sharing the others discomfort. Small wonder he was so universally admired, respected and loved. I am sure that all members of the Association who knew Robert McLean share with me a poignant feeling of inadequacy of expression of our common loss, so let each heart speak its own full measure of bereavement.

Silas B. Osborn.

CALIFONIA GENTLEMAN

I picked a poppy in the bud
And put it in a vase;
It wore a tiny cap or hood,
I could not see the face;
But as I watched it doffed the hat
And dropped it on the stand—
Polite as any diplomat,
He showed a smile as bland.

Frank Hardy Lane.
Chula Vista.

NOTES FROM A NATIVE PLANT GARDEN

By Frank F. Gander

Aug. 17, 1941

Mid-August, hottest season of the year, and it is in such weather that my native plants most surelv prove their worth. No appreciable rainfall have we had since the end of April, although in keeping with California tradition, this has been an unusual summer with traces of rain this month and last, both normally dry. Yet my plants continue to thrive without care.

Some of the spring and early summer bloomers still bear a few scattered flowers. Red Bush Monkeyflowers, California Bee Plant, Tinted Penstemon, Apricot Mallow, Cleveland's and Palmer's Sages, Chuparosa, and California Poppy all put spots of color on my hillside. Coue's Cassia and Emory's Dalea that have been set out since the last rain, are still nicelv in flower although I have long since ceased to water them. Fall flowers are beginning to spread their beauty for my enjoyment—one plant of the Gray-leafed Aster is now past its prime while another is just opening its first head of lovely blue flowers. A California Fuchsia will delight the humming birds with its first blossoms in a day or two, and many other species as well are budded.

Of all the plants which grace my yard with flowers, none does so more consistentlv than the Tassel Spurge or California Acalypha. Every day of the year finds this little shrub decked with its spreading tassel-like spikes of staminate flowers, and usually, too, with its red, feathery clusters of pistillate ones. All season blooming is a commendable quality in any plant, but in one which needs no care, not even watering in the dry season, it is especiallv worth while. Surely there are many gardens in which such a shrub might well be planted even though its flowers are rather small. To its other good qualities, this Acalypha adds that of being easily propagated by cuttings so that it can be made available to everyone as demand for it develops.

Etymology of Carnation

By ETTA FLORENCE ADAIR

The ancient Greek. **karyo-phyllon,** properly **nut-leaf,** from **karyon,** nut, and **phyllon,** leaf, was the clove-tree, a plant of the Moluccas.

This Greek name gave the Latin **caryophyllum,** the clove-tree. Galen, a celebrated Green physician of the second century A. D., who spent several years in Rome, used this word in the Latin form.

Caryophyllum gave the Italian **garfano,** the clove-tree. **Viola garofanata** was the clove-pink, or carnation. Later the meaning of **garofano** was extended to denote both the clove-tree and the carnation.

Caryophyllum gave the Spanish **girofle** and **girofre,** the clove-tree, and the Portuguese **gyrofe,** the clove, and **gyrofeiro** the clove-tree.

Caryophyllum gave the Old French **gilofre** and **girofle,** the clove-tree. The Old French **clou-de-girofle** is literally **nail of the clove-tree** (**clou,** clove, is from the Old French **clou,** a nail, from the Latin **clavus,** a nail, so called from the shape of the dried flower buds of the clove-tree, which are used as a spice. In modern French **girofle** is the clove-tree, while the feminine noun **giroflee** denotes the **Mathiola incana,** a kind of stock, commonly called the stock-gillyflower.

And so it appears that of all the romance languages it is only in the Italian that the common name of the clove-pink, or carnation, is derived from the Latin **caryophyllum.** In Spanish the carnation is the **clavel,** from the Spanish **clavo,** clove, so called because its fragrance suggests that of the clove. **Clavor,** clove, is so called from its shape, which is like that of a nail. In French the carnation is the **oeillet,** the little eye, diminutive of **oeil,** the eye. I do not know what suggested this name for the carnation. Probably it was the small dark center of the blossom. **Oeillet** also means a little round hole through which a lacet may be drawn, as the eyelet of a shoe, and by extension of meaning, a big hole through which a rope may be drawn.

Oeillet is pronounced in two syllables, with the accent lightly on the last syllable. The diphthong **oe**—is pronounced about like **oe** in **Goethe.** The group **ill** (when it does not stand at the beginning of a word) denotes the liquid sound of **l,** which is like that of **y** in **yes.** The followlowing **e** has the sound of the English **a** as in take, and **t** is silent, as it usually is when final.

The French **oeil,** eye, and diminutive **oeillet** are developed from the Old French **oil,** eye, diminutive **oillet,** from the Latin **oculus,** the eye. The diminutive **oillet** came into English with the Norman Conquest, and through the forms **oylete, oelet, oeilet,** and **oillet,** changed finally, under the influence of the English **eye,** to eyelet.

Another acquisition with the Conquest was the Old French **clou-de-girofle,** nail of the clove-tree, or the clove spice, which developed through the Middle English **gyllofer** to the Modern English **gilliver,** which, simulating **flower,** became corrupted to **gillyflower.** The name **gillyflower** is applied primarily to the clove-pink or carnation, **Dianthus Caryophyllus.** This was its meaning with Chaucer, Spencer, Shakespeare, and the older writers generally. But the name is applied, though infrequently, to the wall-gillyflower, **Cheiranthus Cheiri,** and to the stock-gillyflower, **Mathiola incana.** Indeed the name is sometimes applied to half a dozen other plants as well.

Our English name **clove-pink** means simply **that** one of the pinks with the clove scent. As to the source of our name **carnation,** some sixteenth century writers use the form **coronation,** apparently from the sixteenth century specific name **Betonia** coronaria, in allusion to its use in chaplets, or from "the floures . . . dented or toothed above . . . like to a little crownet" (Lyte). But Turner calls the plant an **incarnacyon.** Lyte has **carnation** as well as **coronation,** and Gerardo expressly identifies it with the color "carna-

tion." Pryor takes **coronation** as the original form, and Britten and Holland think his opinion "probably correct."

One or the other name must have been due to popular mistake; **carnation** is alone found after the end of the seventeenth century.

The clove-pink is called also **picotee** and **grenadine.**

The name **caryophyllus** was used by early modern botanists to designate two different genera, one, that of the clove-tree, the other, that of the clove-pink, or carnation. Linnaeus retained the name only for the genus of the clove-tree, which is now classified as **Eugenia aromatica,** with the synonyms **Eugenia caryophyllata, Caryophyllus aromatica,** and **Jambosa Caryophyllus.** The clove-pink, or carnation, he classified as **Dianthus Caryophyllus. Dianthus** is New Latin, from the Greek. Two derivations are suggested, (1) dios, the genitive of Zeus, that is of Zeus, divine, and anthosa flower, literally, **the flower of Zeus;** (2) dianthus, double-flowering, from two, and flower. Botanists generally favor the first of these explanations.

OCTOBER MEETING

Three years ago the members and friends of the San Diego Floral Association were given a treat, having Mr. Charles Gibbs Adams, famous landscape architect of Pasadena, give his talk on "Fascinations of Old Mexico." Again, at this month's regular meeting a splendid attendance of garden lovers were happy to hear this outstanding garden authority on "The Romance of California Trees."

In his prefatory remarks he cited from the first book of the Bible—"And God brought forth fruit trees, and every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food." In another quotation he made a comparison of places with and without trees — the one having trees evidencing thrift, the other manifesting lack of efficiency and/or thrift. In China the devastation of trees caused the wearing away of land by the action of water, and in our own country the Mississippi floods a

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Book Review . . .

By LESTER ROWNTREE . . . ROLAND HOYT

The revised edition of Edmund C. Jaeger's book on the flowers of the desert is now off the press, Desert Wild Flowers, Stanford University Press, $3.50. This second edition contains a botanical key to those plants described in the book. It is done by Ruth Cooper, botanist at Riverside Junior College. It is simple enough for the amateur to work, adding immensely to the worth of the book. The few errors of the first edition have been ironed out and we have in Mr. Jaeger's present book the most satisfactory handbook that has been written on the flowers of the deserts of California. Be sure to read the preface and, if you are a beginner, study well the introductory remarks to the key before you work it.

Lester Rowntree.

Just before starting on a field trip to the states north and to the east of our own state, a Manual of the Higher Plants of Oregon by Morton E. Peck, Binfords & Mort, Publishers, Portland, Oregon, came for me to review.

Since, when I launch a plant scouting trip, I am not certain in which states I will be, this book was thrust into the carton containing my traveling library. On my way home through Oregon I am passing through many of the plant zones of the state, am putting the book to the test and finding how well it works.

The time to review a manual on plants is when it is in use. I am writing this perched on a bit of Oregon lava and surrounded by many of the plants included in the book. I can see at least three snow-capped mountains and there are conifer forests and wide stretches of land showing volcanic origin.

I am finding the twenty pages of survey of the plant areas of Oregon as necessary to my work as the plant classifications. In them, Professor Peck describes the diversity of Oregon's soil, moisture and temperature conditions and gives the student a bird's-eye view of these contrasting zones.

Professor Peck's approach to common names is a sane one. In his introduction he has given eight excellent reasons for the requirements of the common name.

It would have been a help to the amateur plant student if the author had given the approximate time of bloom of each species. Fuller habitat notes and synonyms, as well as illustrations, would also be welcome. Professor Peck gives his reasons for not supplying this additional data.

To the non-botanical, the title is indefinite. When I mentioned the book to one amateur he asked: "What does it mean . . . only tall plants, or plants from high altitudes?"

However, this is the most comprehensive book on the wildflowers of Oregon that has come off the press; one which will be a necessity to all native plant enthusiasts who journey through our neighbor state to the north.

Lester Rowntree.

Science in the Garden by H. Britton Logan and Jean-Marie Putnam; Lloyd Cosper, consultant has been out several months now, published by Duell, Sloan & Pearce, Inc., 270 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, $2.50.

This is not a scientific work as the name might indicate. It merely reports what is happening and what has been done in the sciences as relates to gardening. Much that is old is brought together and presented in an easy style and that which is new . . . too new for unqualified acceptance, perhaps, is here for that first breakdown of the hard shell we develop as we grow in gardening.

It makes good reading and is rich in informative material for the amateur and it is my thought that others might glance through with possible profit. From B. C. until

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COMPLICATIONS and COMMENT

Call this chitter, but not tattle—call it gossip, call it prattle—
But whate'er may be its name, call it fun—
This garden game!

FERNS

Mrs. Fewkes gives an explanation of her method of propagation of ferns. She said to use a brick, a hollowed out brick, and set in water—be sure it is leached out. With a cigar box having holes in the bottom, place coarse leaves, fine soil, then finer soil. Eliminate larva by using boiling water or insecticide, and drain. Cover with a piece of wire and lay fronds on top. Spores will last from six months to two years. If green spores, put in a bag and hang up for several days or until spores are dry. While transplanting, place small clumps 1 inch apart in flats, prepared—be careful not to bruise and do not press—allow water to fill in. When two or three fronds appear, transplant into 2-inch pots. Water about once a week until well established. The soil is composed of 3 parts of leaf mold, 1 of peat, ½ of sharp sand, and 1 lb. of nitroganic or vigoro.

A simple series of "Don'ts" which Mrs. Fewkes gives—cultivate, allow to go dry, overpot, stand in water, stand in sunny windows without some protection, use of high-powered fertilizers, place in dark corners or in a stuffy house, use of Castor Oil, allow plants to become infested with pests, and leave them year after year without food or new soil. Ferns do best when planted in sheltered places by themselves. Tumors of live oak trees make excellent containers.

G. M. G.

HEARTS AND FLOWERS

Aren't you glad that they are using flowers on hats again! You always feel so gay with them.

Did you hear the story of the lady who saw just the hat she wanted, a saucerlike creation covered with blossoms and worn tilted over the right eyebrow? So becoming but—$25—she left it, but came back again and again to look at it, and finally bought it. On her way home she stopped in for the funeral of an acquaintance. Not wishing to carry in the paper bag containing the hat, she laid it on a table in the reception room. What was her dismay later, as she walked past the casket, to see her hat lying on the top of it. She could not pick it off: it would be like stealing flowers. So she hurried home to get her car to go to the cemetery. She had trouble starting it. When she arrived at the cemetery, everyhing was over and that was the LAST she saw of her $25 flower hat.

Marcella Darling.

BANANAS . . . NO

The tall stately stems and large pendulous leaves of banana are generally of great interest to those from colder climes, particularly when these trees are in flower or laden with fruit—the great cone-shaped purplish flowers are not only most interesting but beautiful and the bees love them. Once the tree has fruited, however, it dies out and should be removed to make way for younger trees which shoot up around its base; not more than two or three of these saplings should be allowed to grow up beside the fullgrown tree as — although useful when required to take the place of the parent tree—too many use up the food in the soil . . . They are greedy eaters, these bananas! An interesting feature of these trees is that the fruit is in direct connection with the root —an inner stem, it is said, extends from its base up the centre of the tree and at fruiting season forces its way out or rather grows out between the bases of the topmost leaves; soon weighted down by increasing size of flower at end, the exposed portion droops down and ere long upon this end of the stem are borne the clusters of green bananas, turning—when ripening to yellow and gradually losing the ridges which mark the unripe fruit. The bananas grown in California are, however, said to be plantains; the banana is a tropical fruit and can only succeed here, if at all, in very sheltered warm localities. Nevertheless, the fruit of these plantain trees, as they should therefore perhaps be more properly called, is larger and sweeter than that of imported bananas and many people prefer their flavor.—V.M.S.

THE VESPER IRIS

The Vesper Iris (Iris dichotoma) in its beautiful filigree of graceful branches with an incredible number of flowers like jewels, makes a veritable bouquet by itself. A multitude of gorgeous butterflies at rest with motionless but outstretched wings, is suggested by the blossoms of delicate colors which include cool lavender in various tones marked with brown, copper, lemon, mahogany, orange, and tyrian.

The etherial beauty of the Vesper Iris is really difficult to describe. Hardy, enduring with impunity, severes of both cold and heat, this desirable but too little known and used, member of the Iris family, with its delicate blos-

HATTIE RUMBLE-SHUCKS

Thinks "people is funny." It goes way back. A small boy isn't necessarily disgraced by a black eye and a young deutche blade is positively glorified with a saber cut across the cheek. A woman paints her toenails red and that's a sign of whatever a hottentot stands for.

But then, everything has its uses and that brings up the matter of color and how we look at it in the garden, color versus form and texture and other things in way of evaluation. Almost always its overstressed in a "strainin' for beauty. Did'ja ever stop to think that the shape of a thing comes first?" She suspects that's true even of such an abstract thing as music if one got into it deep enough. In any event, color is layed down on form, and texture is only a detail in the expression of mass to the eye. What does the "openin bud of a magnolia do to ya. Put a single rose 'side the full blown cabbage that's a Paul Neyron . . . does it stop va?"

soms in late July and August, sometimes into September, will enhance the beauty of any garden. It fills the gap between the late Tall Bearded Irises and the Fall Bloomers.

R. V. A.

SOIL TESTER

A new portable soil tester, no larger than a folding camera, has been developed at Washington State college by Dr. Ernest C. McCulloch and L. C. Wheeting.

Because electrical conductivity is considered an accurate means of measuring the salinity of soil, the apparatus will enable interested persons to determine soil salinity by merely "listening in" on soil solutions placed in the machine.

The tester will make possible soil appraisal in the field, thus obviating the necessity of taking the soil to a laboratory for analysis and for correction for temperature changes.

The machine will be turned over to the research foundation of Washington State College.

Course 'thout thinkin, ya pick out nice slender buds for a vase, and what does it mean if ya catch yourself thinkin of the color of the container? How about its shape? The architect gives extra thought to the mass of his building and trims the windows blue. Whoever saw a blue house?" She saw a red one once and has never forgotten it. She still stutters in thought of it.

And so it goes . . . "people a-stewin' an frettin' an palpitatin' about how does this color go against that, mainly cause somebody said pink didn't go with red, losin' the point entirely." She wants to say here that color doesn't react outside as it does within. You have bright sun, sudden shadow, unseen mists to soften and a submerging green that tends to pull all together. "God isnt bothered none 'bout pink an red. He is the one put a little white in to invent a tint, then left it layin' 'round careless like. Mebbe, if He stopped to think, too, He'd lay a little more green. It's the feelin' of it counts . . . not so much the thinkin."

Gleanings from the Magazines

By Vivian W. Scott

When Mr. Hoyt brought me a bundle of magazines to glean I wondered where to begin. I chose almost the smallest. Slipping it out of the wrapper I found **Golden Gardens.** I was sitting on my terrace enjoying one of the perfect fall days we have been having and I couldn't help but think, what an excellent name for a California garden magazine. I opened it and the first thing that caught my eye was a list of Agricultural Bulletins of interest by California Gardeners. We are doing a lot of complaining about our government just now so let's take advantage and get some of our tax money back in a bulletin on "Diseases of Flowers and other Ornamentals" by Prof. Ralph E. Smith of University of California College of Agriculture. Here is our chance to read about the pests that bother California growers, so why waste our time reading about Vermont bugs.

This same idea of knowing about California bugs is to know of plants which thrive in California. We have been told that most of the South African flora will do well here. Charlotte Hoak has such an interesting article on dependable "South Africans for Color in your Gardens." Many people are looking for blue flowers. She tells us that Babianas, "blue freesias" — some people call them. The regular hybrids come in deep blues and purple, and the most resplendent one of all is Babiana rubrocyanea with its glowing red center, "Cups of Wine" I believe they are called in their native habitat. No matter what part of California you live in, you can have the Clivia, that aristocrat of the Amaryllis family. As a potted or tub plant it is a prized possession in any garden, and with reasonable care will endure for a life time, increasing in beauty. Clivia mineata is the hardiest of all. Zimmerman hybrids, the life work of one of our leading California Hybridists is the high watermark. Miss Hoak tells us of freesias, the Tecolote Hybrids that have two foot stems and two inch flowers combined with a wide and vivid color range. Dianella intermedia is new and sounds most attractive. Its flowers are blue stars and are succeeded by a jeweled wand of bright blue berries thickly set. The foliage is evergreen. It does well in any soil and any exposure.

Lester Rowntree has an article which will be of interest to many in Roadside Planting in other states. We should be more conscious of roadside beauty here in California.

Horticulture for September 15th has an article on the wax flowers in the Buffalo Museum which rival the famous glass flowers at Harvard. The wax flowers are made by George and Paul Marchand of the museum staff and represent many years of patient work. So life-like are the finished flowers that bees insist on extracting nector. The collection includes more mushrooms than the average person thought existed. These models are excellent in helping one to identify the different species. The poisonous mushrooms carry a skull and cross bones, the edible varieties a plate with knife and fork.

Horticulture tells us Britain is asking for seeds to be planted next spring. Cash donations are preferred to seeds. Posters are being distributed by the organization known as "American Seeds for British Soil" at 18 E. 75th Street, New York City. It is to this address that contributions should be sent.

Experiences in Lychee growing is told in **"Sub-Tropical Gardening."** I had some of the fresh nuts given me not long ago which had been raised near San Diego. The fruit is bright red and makes an unusual specimen. It cannot stand very cold weather.

In an article on "Mulching best for Winter" is the news that they have found glass wool the best material. The chief advantage is its complete sterility. It is excellent insulating material to prevent violent fluctuation in soil temperature, which is the thing to guard against in any climate. Mr. E. L. Lord has

a good article on "Varieties of Hibiscus." He tells of the many beautiful varieties in the market. He likes them grown as small standard trees. All that is necessary is to keep the stem single and free from side shoots until the desired height is reached. Then pinch out the branching tips until a head is formed. This is a representative of the Mallow family, a very large family of plants. Okra (Hibiscus esculentus) belongs here and (Hibiscus Sabdariffa) or Florida Cranberry, which they say is better than New Jersey Cranberry.

Cactus and Succulent Journal has a message from its president, W. Taylor Marshall, warning people that the desert flora cannot be conserved if plants are collected and shipped to buyers in large quantities. "Plants collected on the desert will not survive in cultivation for any considerable length of time. They do not re-root or root slightly and live for one, two or possibly three years on stored energy plus the little energy supplied by the new, weak roots and then die. Therefore, I urge you, if not for the sake of aiding in the conservation of the desert flora, then at least for your own interest, to buy seedlings that may live and not the collected plants which are surely fated to an early passing."

Again we may be thankful we live in a warm climate, for a contribution from Watertown, Wisconsin tells of moving a cacti collection (over 300 specimens) from the yard to the attic in October. It is interesting to know the low temperatures which they can endure. The average temperature in the attic ranges from 40 degrees to 55 degrees. When the thermometer drops to 10 degrees or more below zero the temperature will be 32 degrees in the attic. With such low temperatures endured, the loss usually came from rot or desiccation.

"The American Home" for September has an article on "Trees and Shrubs on Walls." We are beginning to see more espaliered trees in this countrv. This article recommends it as not being difficult if

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Problems of the Soil . . . .

By ROB'T R. McLEAN

Question: I have a Fremontia that has not been doing well. It has been turning yellow and some of the leaves have dropped. I have given it plenty of water and fertilizer and have given it the best of care in other ways. Can you suggest any reason whv it should act this way? Also I want to ask about a Monterey cypress hedge that has been turning a rusty color. It does not seem to be dying but just does not look right. Can you tell me any possible reason for this and the remedy? G. H. K.

Answer: Without more specific data to work with it is hard to suggest whv your Fremontia should behave in this manner, but isn't it possible that you are treating it entirely too well, particularly as regards water? Fremontias are native plants and are normally found growing among other shrubs and small trees, competing with them for food, water and light, without any extra food and water being supplied them by man. Under all circumstances, however, they require a well drained soil. As is true with most other native plants, if given a proper soil and intelligent care, specimen trees will do even better than in their native setting, but certain fundamentals must not be lost sight of and in the case of Fremonias drainage is one. As you no doubt know drainage in vour section is not apt to be good. Check this point as relates to your Fremontia and cut down the water to only the amount necessary to keep the tree in good condition. If drainage can be improved, so much the better.

In the case of your hedge, here again one can only speculate as to the cause of the trouble. The writer has seen cypress hedges ruined by aphis and by thrips in somewhat the manner you describe. Aphis, if present, are apt to cause the needles to become discolored, usually black with a deposit of honey dew in which the sooty mold fungus grows. Gradually infested portions begin to turn brown and die. On the other hand thrips sear and scorch the foliage without killing it unless the attack covers a considerable period of time. Possibly your description of the injury fits that caused by thrips rather than aphis. This does not greatly matter, however, as tobacco is the remedy for both. Use an ounce of black leaf 40, liquid measure, to 5 or 6 gallons of soapy water and spray with as much force as possible in order to get the liquid into every part of the hedge and thoroughly wet the needles. A second spraying may be necessary about two weeks later in order to get any insects that may have hatched out following the first treatment.

* * *

ROSE RUST

Question: This fall I have had so much rust on my roses. Is there any really successful method of treating this disease? If so, will you kindly outline it?

Mrs. M. G.

Answer: Control of rose rust, one of our most common and destructive diseases of rose leaves, is really difficult and to be successful must consist largely of preventive methods. In too many instances rose growers are not willing to consistently follow out suggested control measures and consequently fail to prevent the disease from injuring their plants, especially in the late summer.

Spraying or dusting the plants as necessary, the removal and burning of infected leaves as they appear, the removal and destruction of plants of varieties that are particularly susceptible to the disease; all these are steps that must be taken if rose rust is to be controlled. During the month of January, when the plants are more nearly dormant than at any other time of year, all of the leaves should be removed and burned or otherwise destroyed and the plants sprayed with a 5-5-50 Bordeaux

mixture, or commercial lime-sulphur solution, one part to ten parts of water. This can be repeated to advantage in two or three weeks. Later, a regular spraying or dusting program should be carried on with either a fine dusting sulphur, applying it every 10 days or 2 weeks throughout the season, or a liquid spray of potassium sulphide (liver of sulphur), one ounce to three gallons of water. This latter material is practically colorless on foliage and blooms, but will discolor painted woodwork nearby. This spray should be applied every two weeks. As previously indicated, your success in controlling rose rust will largely depend upon how regularly and thoroughly you give your bushes this treatment throughout the season. Any other fungicide containing copper or sulphur will probably be effective besides the specific ones mentioned. Copper and sulphur do not form a compatible mixture and should not be used together or even alternately for fear of injury to the pants.

* * *

GERANIUMS

Question: I have some geraniums of which I am very fond and lately they seem to have so many worms on them. Please tell me what to use on them? I would like something inexpensive that can easily be put on. Mrs. L. K.

Answer: Some of the worms attacking geraniums and similar plants are rather hard to kill with ordinary poisons. Under such circumstances the fluosilicates have been found to be quite satisfactory, consequently it is recommended that you get a little cryolite, a fluorine compound, and apply it to your plants either as a spray or a dust, whichever is easiest for you. If applied as a dust you can use it straight or mix it with a little gypsum or hydrated lime. If you want to use it as a spray, mix 1 ounce of the cryolite with 2 gallons of water. Cryolite can be obtained from any seeds house or dealer in insecticides. This material is also a remedy for the genista caterpillar that is so resistant to ordinary poisons.

(Continued on Page 9)

My South African Garden

By VIVIAN M. SALE

The chief items of interest in this garden are first of all: Leucadendron argenteum, growing to a height of 15 to 20 feet—a bushy tree with leaves which have such a silvery sheen upon them that it has been called "the Silver Tree"—a most beautiful and ornamental tree when fully developed; Kitchingia, an interesting shrub with large leathery buff colored leaves which in shape have been likened to the famous "ten gallon hats" worn by Texans; the plant is also of interest by reason of the fact that Ford's representatives, when seeking rubber in the island of Madagascar, off the coast of South Africa, found this plant in this its native home—having apparently escaped hitherto the attention of botanists. It has presumably no commercial value but it is an interesting addition to what may be said to come under the category of South African vegetation.

Another shrub in this garden is very truly South African—Carissa grandiflora or "The Natal plum" as it is more generally termed—a low growing thorny shrub with large white jasmine like flowers of sweet perfume and round red fruits which make delicious jam. A curious plant growing up in front of the large three ton rock previously referred to, presents a grotesque appearance in the winter months—losing all its foliage of thick fleshy leaves, their former position on trunk and branches marked by white notches in the bark—the name of this extraordinary looking plant has not yet been discovered. Aloes of many kinds are to be found in this garden and they are not only very interesting and varied in form but all produce flowers of striking beauty; these flowers usually contain a very liquid kind of honey which may be shaken out by tapping the tall stems which shoot up from the base of the plant; humming birds and the golden oriole are particularly fond of this food and it is very diverting to watch the humming bird poking its long bill into these flowers, taking a little sip, then darting backwards (the only bird which can fly backwards) or darting with marvelous speed to some other part of the garden.

The Gerberas must not be forgotten in this inventory—a plant which forms a mound of long beautifully shaped leaves from which in spring shoot up slender stems bearing at their summits a large marguerite shaped flower—the original hue as it is seen growing wild in South Africa is, it is said, vermilion, but several new shades have been obtained and it is now possible to have dark red, pink, white and even yellow flowers of lovely pastel hues which present a most exquisite bouquet when matched with each other. It is a difficult plant to grow, requiring good drainage, a light soil, plenty of water and a sunny position; cold damp conditions in win-

(Continued on Page 9)

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BOOK REVIEW

(Continued from Page 3)

now it skips nimbly and with very evident pleasure in an overcast of the underlying principles in gardening, with much on modern procedure.

What would you think of acidifying for your camellia with a small amount of sulphur against the main roots . . . not incorporated necessarily with the soil, but in a narrow boring that should last for several years. I don't know this will work, but suspect it will and am going to try it when I have a camellia of my own and can watch it.

We know rainwater is best for bringing along seedlings, as witness provocative grass seed that would test the vocabulary of the cavalry, standing still or moribund, quickening to activity with r a i n. Carry this thought onwards, knowing that all our arid subtropical waters are alkaline with a vengeance born of the ages. They say here to add a few drops of phosphoric acid to the quart of water to clear this up.

And here is an idea for the professional who has been struggling with seed germination. Would you ever think to expose seeds difficult to germinate to a bright light, thereby softening up that tough resistance. United States Government experiments are related that may surprise you . . . and so seemingly simple and easy and inexpensive.

And so it goes . . . some two hundred fifty pages of whys and wherefores and whats and whatnots and even some ifs for those gardeners who have crawled out some little distance on the limb of knowledge.

If you are inclined to feel contentious about some of these points such as cultivation being overdone or not necessary at all; either know or remember that science, as of the soil here, is not a static thing. It is not conclusive at any given stage and will not be in point of time conceivable to this generation at least and, I suspect, for several to come.

Roland Hoyt.

GLEANINGS

(Continued from Page 6)

the right variety is chosen. Fruit trees are good for we have the flowers and the fruit to enjoy. The writer prefers the Japanese Quince which, when trained flat, flowers much more abundantly than the usual bush.

The amateur gardener in California can't afford to be without Sunset with its guide for each month. In speaking of the twisted juniper (Juniperus chinensis variety torulosa) I notice the writer speaks of it being seen widely around La Jolla and San Diego. This is another example of Miss Sessions' influence. She called it "the world's finest juniper." She said, "And to show you how much I think of it, I have planted two at my lot in the cemetery and expect them to be there many years after I am gone." Sunset suggests planting dwarf sweet peas in pots which would add color wherever placed early in the spring.

OCTOBER MEETING

(Continued from Page 3)

case in point. Trees, he said, give food, medicine, houses—do a thousand things—and added, California has given trees to the world.

Of interest, some of the trees mentioned by Mr. Adams are the Sycamore (Platanus) which oddly resembles maple trees, having rather rounded crowns and large shiny green leaves; Castor Bean— f r o m the seed medicine was made; California Live Oak, an evergreen oak (Quercus agrifolia), having hard, heavy wood; Bay Tree (Umbellularia californica) the leaves are used as a flavoring in soup. The Indians use the bitter acorns, ground and treated to take out some of the bitterness, then cooked as a meal; California Cypress is found growing at Monterey—a sprig of this cypress given to a lady love carried the message, "I will love you through eternity"; Island Ironwood with beautiful foliage and flaking, warm red bark; Toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia) having white flowers succeeded by bright red berries—also called Christmas holly; Manzanita, from Spanish which means "little apple"; Pecans, of American Indian origin, was brought to the Padre at San Gabriel mission by a Mexican. These nuts interested the priest and he sent the man back to get fruittree cuttings which resulted in the introduction of olives, grapes and figs into the state; Persimmon having orange-red fruit and very hard blackish wood is highly prized in China, and is cultivated in Japan as extensively as the apple in the United States. The name means "Food of the Gods."

The Loquat—we do not know how we got it but it came from China and Japan; Carob (Ceretonia siliqua) an evergreen tree — from Mediterranean regions which produces long pods used for feeding hogs and cattle; Camphor trees and Cinnamon trees are sisters; Trees of Heaven having seeds like the maple is a native of eastern Asia and in China is the tree of knowledge of good and evil—suggests stop and

Of the Cedar trees, the Deodar Cedars at Pasadena form a mile of

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"Christmas trees." The Pepper trees were brought by a sea captain; Palms are not really trees but rather, great stalks of corn; Box Elders and Date trees, thirty-six years ago were planted on a ranch at Mecca, and now there are eighty varieties; the Magnolia was brought by a sailor and first introduced at Santa Monica; Weeping Willow, called Smiling Willow was discovered when a twig which was woven into a basket showed growth and was planted.

Brief talks on plant specimens were made by Mr. Jerebek, and by Mrs. Bakkers who exhibited two outstanding specimens—the Monstera deliciosa and the Hylocereus undutus.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president, in her opening remarks announced the dates for the annual Chrysanthemum show—the announcement is given elsewhere in this issue of The California Garden magazine.

G.M.G.

SOUTH AFRICAN GARDEN

By Vivian M. Sale

(Continued from Page 7)

ter sometimes cause them to die out entirely even if all these requirements are provided for—at least, that has been the experience in this garden.

The chief attraction, however, of this South African garden—in the spring, at least, are the mesembryanthemums—a terrific name which merely means "the flower that opens at noon," which they very literally do, closing up again about 3 or 4 o'clock as the sunshine loses warmth. They are trailing plants and have therefore been planted on the edges of open spaces in the irregular rock garden wall. About the end of March they are at their best; somewhat marguerite like in form they vary in size, some as small as a dime, others as large as a dollar; but in general the colors are of a most intense kind and so freely do they flower that at midday the foliage is almost entirely hidden from view. The brilliancy of color is most remarkable varying in hue from orange in one variety to purple, or yellow or white or pink or red in others—in full sunshine between noon and 3 p.m. they form dazzling masses of color, the rocks making an admirable background. The most beautiful of all is generally admitted to be Mesembryanthemum speciosum which has petals of a marvelously lovely orange red and a black and cream centre. Some mesembryanthemums are dwarf and possess short, thick, fleshy stems—a glorious one of this type is Mesembryanthemum Alstonii whose flower is a deep blood red, a strong and most beautiful contrast to the thick fleshy leaves of grayish green. But the majority of the mesembryanthemums make a spread of a couple of feet or even more; the difficulty is to restrain them from too exuberant flowering which seems to exhaust the vitality of the plant; after the second year it is best to take out old plants and put in young ones grown from cuttings taken in August, when new growth begins.

PROBLEMS OF THE SOIL

By R. R. McLean

(Continued from Page 7)

Question: Can you tell me if there is any such thing as an evergreen elm? All the elms I am acquainted with drop their leaves in the fall. If there is any such tree, will you tell me where it can obtained?—Mrs. F. N.

Answer: There are evergreen elms, or at least elms that are almost entirely evergreen, in San Diego, and they are very fine trees indeed. An elm of this species may be entirely evergreen here in San Diego but planted in other sections of the south where colder winter weather usually prevails, it may drop its leaves for a month or so. In ordinary years these elms are entirely evergreen here. One species is known as Ulmus sempervirens and another, sometimes called the Chinese elm, is Ulmus parvifolia or U. Chinensis.

Rob't R. McLean, horticulturist extraordinary, has passed on to that place where all will know and put into use, that which flowers are trying to tell us here.—The Editor.

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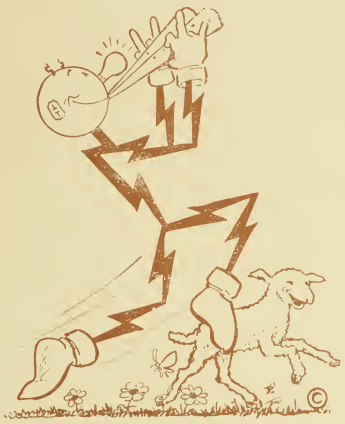

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